

**From:** Poriss, Jason S113  
**To:** 'microsoft.atr(a)usdoj.gov'  
**Date:** 1/23/02 8:30am  
**Subject:** microsoft settlement

I would like to make a few short comments regarding the proposed Microsoft anti-trust settlement. I feel that Microsoft should not be allowed to include any middleware products, regardless of whether others are allowed to compete. Microsoft, by all means, should be allowed to create programs such as browsers, MP3 audio players, video players, disk defragmenters, etc. However, they should have exactly the same integration tools available to them as competing companies. In all likelihood the only way to ensure this would be to split the Microsoft OS from the rest of Microsoft, although that apparently is no longer an option.

Let me draw a short picture which illustrates the destructive effect Microsoft has on competition. Several years ago, I bought a Microsoft operating system so that I could use my computer's hardware. Then I bought and installed several programs which allowed me to do tasks I needed to do, for example:

- \* Audio Player > WinAmp
- \* Disk Defragmenter > Disk Keeper
- \* Browser > Netscape Navigator
- \* Video Player > QuickTime
- \* System tools > Noton Utilities
- \* Web Server > Apache

The list goes on an on... today however, I don't need to buy any of the above third party tools, my system looks more like this:

- \* Audio Player > Microsoft Media Player
- \* Disk Defragmenter > Microsoft Disk Defragmenter
- \* Browser > Microsoft Internet Explorer
- \* Video Player > Microsoft Media Player
- \* System tools > Microsoft Scan Disk
- \* Web Server > Microsoft IIS

This is not a picture of healthy competition.

> Jason T. Poriss  
>  
>  
>  
>

---

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: If you have received this e-mail in error, please immediately notify the sender by e-mail at the address shown. This e-mail transmission may contain confidential information. This information is intended only for the use of the individual(s) or entity to whom it is intended even if

addressed incorrectly. Please delete it from your files if you are not the intended recipient. Thank you  
for your compliance. Copyright (c) 2002 CIGNA

+++++